

**PETER LOFFLER**

*Patent Attorney*

P.O. Box 1001

Niceville, Florida 32588-1001

Telephone (850) 729-1520

Facsimile (850) 729-3504

200 East Government Street, Suite 130  
Pensacola, Florida 32501  
(850) 438-2696

**RECEIVED  
CENTRAL FAX CENTER**

**SEP 29 2004**

~~1348-F Metropolitan Boulevard~~  
Tallahassee, Florida 32308  
(850) 894-1984

**FAX COVER SHEET**

**TO:** Examiner Yaritza Guadalupe  
Art Unit 2859  
RE: 10/781,513

**FROM:** Peter Loffler

**DATE:** 09/29/2004

**FAX NUMBER:** (703) 872-9306

**TOTAL PAGES (including cover) 9**

*The following document is protected by the attorney client privilege and is meant to be read only by the intended party. If this document is received by someone other than the intended party, it must be immediately forwarded to the intended party. Any other dissemination or distribution is strictly prohibited. If this facsimile is received in error, please call (850) 729-1520 for instructions on its proper return. Reasonable telephone expenses will be reimbursed.*

## IN THE CLAIMS

**Claim 1** (currently amended).

A layout tool comprising:

a left foot having a first upper surface and a first lower surface;

a right foot having a second upper surface and a second lower surface;

a connecting bar connecting the left foot with the right foot such that the connecting bar has various measurement marks thereon for taking various measurements whenever the tool is placed at a reference point, such that the measurement marks include a joining corner mark, a corner mark, a first intersecting wall mark, and a second intersecting wall mark; and

wherein the joining corner mark is located 2.75 inches from an inner edge of the left foot, the corner mark is located 4.5 inches from an outer edge of the left foot, the first intersecting wall mark is located 3.5 inches from the inner edge of the left foot, and the second intersecting wall mark is located 7 inches from the outer edge of the left foot and/or wherein the joining corner mark is located 2.75 inches from an inner edge of the right foot, the corner mark is located 4.5 inches from an outer edge of the right foot, the first intersecting wall mark is located 3.5 inches from the inner edge of the right foot, and the second intersecting wall mark is located 7 inches from the outer edge of the right foot.

**Claim 2** (original).

The layout tool as in claim 1 wherein the connecting bar is connected to the first lower surface of the left foot and the second lower surface of the right foot.

**Claim 3** (original).

The layout tool as in claim 1 wherein an edge of the connecting bar has ruler markings thereon for taking spacing measurements.

**Claim 4 (original).**

The layout tool as in claim 1 wherein the measurement marks include a left measurement mark subset located proximate the left foot and the a right measurement mark subset located proximate the right foot, the left measurement mark subset being symmetrical with the right measurement mark subset about a central point of the connecting bar.

**Claim 5 (canceled).****Claim 6 (canceled).****Claim 7 (canceled).****Claim 8 (original).**

The layout tool as in claim 1 wherein the measurement marks include a left joining corner mark, a left corner mark, a first left intersecting wall mark, a second left intersecting wall mark, a right joining corner mark, a right corner mark, a first right intersecting wall mark, and a second right intersecting wall mark.

**Claim 9 (canceled).****Claim 10 (original).**

The layout tool as in claim 1 further comprising:

a left opening located within the left foot; and

a right opening located within the right foot.

**Claim 11 (original).**

The layout tool as in claim 10 wherein the left opening is located 16 inches from the right opening.

**Claim 12 (currently amended).**

A layout tool comprising:

a left foot having a first upper surface and a first lower surface;

a right foot having a second upper surface and a second lower surface;

a connecting bar connecting the left foot with the right foot such that the connecting bar has various measurement marks thereon for taking various measurements whenever the tool is placed at a reference point, such that the measurement marks include a joining corner mark, a corner mark, a first intersecting wall mark, and a second intersecting wall mark wherein the joining corner mark is located 2.75 inches from an inner edge of the left foot, the corner mark is located 4.5 inches from an outer edge of the left foot, the first intersecting wall mark is located 3.5 inches from the inner edge of the left foot, and the second intersecting wall mark is located 7 inches from the outer edge of the left foot and/or wherein the joining corner mark is located 2.75 inches from an inner edge of the right foot, the corner mark is located 4.5 inches from an outer edge of the right foot, the first intersecting wall mark is located 3.5 inches from the inner edge of the right foot, and the second intersecting wall mark is located 7 inches from the outer edge of the right foot;

a left opening located within the left foot; and

a right opening located within the right foot located 16 inches from the left opening.

**Claim 13 (original).**

The layout tool as in claim 12 wherein the connecting bar is connected to the first lower surface of the left foot and the second lower surface of the right foot.

**Claim 14 (original).**

The layout tool as in claim 12 wherein an edge of the connecting bar has ruler markings thereon for taking spacing measurements.

**Claim 15 (original).**

The layout tool as in claim 12 wherein the measurement marks include a left measurement mark subset located proximate the left foot and the a right measurement mark subset located proximate the right foot, the left measurement mark subset being symmetrical with the right measurement mark subset about a central point of the connecting bar.

**Claim 16** (canceled).

**Claim 17** (canceled).

**Claim 18** (canceled).

**Claim 19** (original).

The layout tool as in claim 12 wherein the measurement marks include a left joining corner mark, a left corner mark, a first left intersecting wall mark, a second left intersecting wall mark, a right joining corner mark, a right corner mark, a first right intersecting wall mark, and a second right intersecting wall mark.

**Claim 20** (canceled).

**Claim 21** (new).

A layout tool comprising:

a left foot having a first upper surface and a first lower surface;

a right foot having a second upper surface and a second lower surface;

a connecting bar connecting the left foot with the right foot such that the connecting bar has various measurement marks thereon for taking various measurements whenever the tool is placed at a reference point;

a left opening located within the left foot;

a right opening located within the right foot; and

wherein the left opening is located 16 inches from the right opening.

**Claim 22 (new).**

The layout tool as in claim 21 wherein the connecting bar is connected to the first lower surface of the left foot and the second lower surface of the right foot.

**Claim 23 (new).**

The layout tool as in claim 21 wherein an edge of the connecting bar has ruler markings thereon for taking spacing measurements.

**Claim 24 (new).**

The layout tool as in claim 21 wherein the measurement marks include a left measurement mark subset located proximate the left foot and the a right measurement mark subset located proximate the right foot, the left measurement mark subset being symmetrical with the right measurement mark subset about a central point of the connecting bar.

**Claim 25 (new).**

The layout tool as in claim 21 wherein the measurement marks include a joining corner mark, a corner mark, a first intersecting wall mark, and a second intersecting wall mark.

**Claim 26 (new).**

The layout tool as in claim 25 wherein the joining corner mark is located 2.75 inches from an inner edge of the left foot, the corner mark is located 4.5 inches from an outer edge of the left foot, the first intersecting wall mark is located 3.5 inches from the inner edge of the left foot, and the second intersecting wall mark is located 7 inches from the outer edge of the left foot or wherein the joining corner mark is located 2.75 inches from an inner edge of the right foot, the corner mark is located 4.5 inches from an outer edge of the right foot, the first intersecting wall mark is located 3.5 inches from the inner edge of the right foot, and the second intersecting wall mark is located 7 inches from the outer edge of the right foot.

**Claim 27 (new).**

The layout tool as in claim 21 wherein the measurement marks include a left joining corner mark, a left corner mark, a first left intersecting wall mark, a second left intersecting wall mark, a right joining corner mark, a right corner mark, a first right intersecting wall mark, and a second right intersecting wall mark.

**Claim 28 (new).**

The layout tool as in claim 28 wherein the left joining corner mark is located 2.75 inches from a first inner edge of the left foot, the left corner mark is located 4.5 inches from a first outer edge of the left foot, the first left intersecting wall mark is located 3.5 inches from the first inner edge of the left foot, the second left intersecting wall mark is located 7 inches from the first outer edge of the left foot, the right joining corner mark is located 2.75 inches from a second inner edge of the right foot, the right corner mark is located 4.5 inches from a second outer edge of the right foot, the first right intersecting wall mark is located 3.5 inches from the second inner edge of the right foot, and the second right intersecting wall mark is located 7 inches from the second outer edge of the right foot.